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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1713 Examiner: Shruti S. Costales

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is an information disclosure statement submitted under 37 CFR 1.97-1.98, within the time period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(c).

A Form PTO-1449 and copies of the references listed therein are attached. Since the references are written in the Japanese language, all but one of them are accompanied by a Patent Abstracts of Japan summary and/or a machine-generated translation to provide English-language information about the relevance of the references. The remaining reference (Japanese Unexamined patent publication number 2002-201335) is accompanied by a published U.S. application (publication number 2002/0123557) to provide English-language information about its relevance.

These references were cited in a Notification of Reasons for Refusal that was mailed by the Japanese Patent Office on August 2, 2005 in the counterpart Japanese application (that

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Atty. Dkt.: AI 304

is, the Japanese application whose benefit is claimed in the present U.S. application). A copy

of the Notification of Reasons for Refusal is attached. Although it identifies two references

in addition to the ones that are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, the two omitted

references have already been made a matter of record in the present U.S. application.

As was noted above, the Japanese Notification of Reasons for Refusal was mailed by

the Japanese Patent Office on August 2, 2005. Accordingly, it is hereby certified under 37

CFR 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure

Statement was first cited in a communication from the foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information

Disclosure Statement.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

10/649,798

Atty. Dkt.: AI 304

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the attached references and confirm that this has been done by initialing them on the attached Form PTO-1449 and returning a copy thereof to the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Wood - Reg. No. 28,134

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AW/rw



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FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT				AI 304	10/649,798						
				Applicant Hirokazu ARAI et al							
				Filing Date August 28, 2003	Group 1713						
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS											
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub- Class	Filing Date				
	AA	2002/123557	12/27/01	Asai et al							
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			FOREIGI	N PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub- Class	Trans- lation				
	AI	2001-280449	10/2001	Japan			yes				
i <u>.</u> .	AJ	2002-201335	07/2002	Japan			U.S. appln.				
	AK	3-28535	06/1991	Japan			abstract				
	AL	8-145148	06/1996	Japan		<u> </u>	yes				
	AM	11-156952	06/1999	Japan			yes				
	AN	6-18964	05/1987	Japan			abstract				
		OTHER (I	ncluding Au	thor, Title, Date, Pertinent Pag	es, etc.)						
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FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT				Atty. Docket	Application	Application No.			
				AI 304	10/649,798				
				Applicant Hirokazu ARAI et al					
				Filing Date August 28, 2003	Group 1713				
				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub- Class	Filing Date		
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	Al	60-57452	02/1980	Japan			abstract		
	AJ	10-254092	09/1998	Japan			yes		
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